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March 3, 2009

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H. *jet*
Director and Health Officer

SUBJECT: **USE OF SOLE SOURCE AGREEMENTS TO IMPLEMENT THE
ENHANCEMENT OF CO-OCCURRING DISORDERS COURT PROGRAM**

The Department of Public Health's (DPH) Alcohol and Drug Program Administration (ADPA) requests to enter into two sole source contracts to enhance treatment services for clients with co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders in Los Angeles County's Co-Occurring Disorders Court Program (CODCP). DPH intends to seek Board approval in March 2009 to enter into a new agreement with Special Service for Groups (SSG) and to amend an existing agreement with The Regents of the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA).

BACKGROUND

In April 2008, ADPA, in conjunction with its CODCP partners (Countywide Criminal Justice Collaboration Committee (CCJCC), Superior Courts, District Attorney, Public Defender, Probation, and the Department of Mental Health) submitted a grant application to the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), Center for Substance Abuse Treatment (CSAT) to provide enhanced integrated services for CODCP clients receiving residential treatment services at ADPA's Antelope Valley Rehabilitation Centers (AVRC). ADPA received the Notice of Grant Award (NGA) on September 19, 2008.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Under this new agreement, SSG will expand and enhance their treatment services for the Los Angeles County CODCP by providing specialized case management services at the AVRC for CODCP clients. Residential treatment services will be delivered to CODCP clients through a specialized residential treatment module located at the AVRC site in Acton, CA. SSG case management services will bridge the CODCP clients' transition from intensive residential treatment at the AVRC to their enrollment and engagement in a community-based outpatient treatment program. The case management services will also ensure that clients are connected to supportive housing and other ancillary services as needed. ADPA currently contracts with SSG for the provision of alcohol and drug program services, including serving individuals referred through the CODCP.

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Clients in this program are non-violent felony drug offenders, who have both a severe, chronic substance abuse disorder and a serious, persistent mental illness, are homeless or at extreme risk for homelessness, have had frequent criminal justice system contacts, and have repeatedly used psychiatric hospital or emergency services.

JUSTIFICATION FOR USE OF SOLE SOURCE CONTRACTING

SSG was selected by ADPA for their expertise and ability to offer these services. They are the only agency that provides the broad spectrum of services identified by CODCP, which follows the one-court/one-provider drug court model. Under this model, persons suffering from a co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorder who need residential services will be placed at the AVRC's Acton facility and will receive intensive case management services by SSG. Funding from the CODCP grant is \$597,270 from the date of Board approval through September 29, 2011.

ADPA currently contracts with UCLA for the provision of evaluation services. This agency was chosen due to its extensive experience in evaluating treatment services throughout the state and Los Angeles County. The CODCP grant includes \$167,730 for UCLA to conduct an evaluation of the program enhancements from the date of Board approval through September 29, 2011.

Approval of these sole source agreements with SSG and UCLA will ensure that enhanced, intensive treatment services for clients in Los Angeles County's CODCP are implemented in a timely manner.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know.

JEF:amh

c: Chief Executive Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors